

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 9, 10 and 12-16 and 18-27 are now present in the application. Claims 9, 26 and 27 have been amended. Claims 9 and 27 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Objection

Claim 26 has been objected to as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this objection has been addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection Under 35 USC § 112

Claims 9-10, 12-16 and 18-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As the Examiner will note, claim 9 has been amended to recite "indentations for helping the lands pick up the electroluminescent material firmly". This amendment has been supported by the specification of this application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, are therefore respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection Under 35 USC § 103

Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei, U.S. Patent No. 5,682,043, in view of Wright, U.S. Patent No. 3,661,081, and Miyashita, WO 98/24271; Ireton, U.S. Patent No. 4,611,539 was cited as evidence. Claims 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei, in view of Wright and Miyashita, and further in view of Samworth, U.S. Patent No. 6,213,018. Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei, in view of Wright, Miyashita and Samworth, and further in view of Kimura, EP 0862156. Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei in view of Wright, Miyashita, and Samworth, and further in view of Mourrellone, U.S. Patent No. 4,542,693. Claims 20 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei in view of Wright, Miyashita, and Samworth, and further in view of Nagayama, U.S. Patent No. 5,701,055. Claims 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei in view of Wright, Miyashita, and Samworth, and further in view of Watanabe, U.S. Patent No. 5,270,846. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

As mentioned, the Examiner rejected claim 27 based on Pei in view of Wright and Miyashita. However, Pei in view of Wright and Miyashita does not disclose the technical features of amended claim 27 that the lands protrude in a stripe shape. Since the lands protrude in the stripe shape, the structure of the convex portions becomes simple.

In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 9-10, 12-16, 18-20, 22, 25 and 26 based on Pei in view of Wright, Miyashita and Samworth. As explained above, Pei in view of Wright, Miyashita and Samworth also fails to disclose the technical features of amended claims 9 and 27 that the lands protrude in a stripe shape. Since the lands protrude in the stripe shape, the structure of the convex portions becomes simple.

Accordingly, none of the references utilized by the Examiner individually or in combination teach or suggest the above-noted features of independent claims 9 and 27. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 9 and 27 and their dependent claims (at least due to their dependency) clearly define over the teachings of the utilized references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

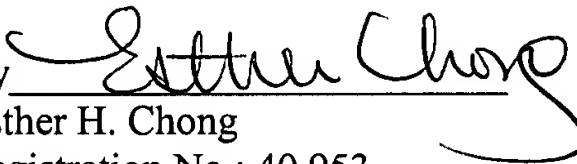
It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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